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GLORIA MOLINA CONGRATULATES ‘SWING INTO READING!’ BOOKMARK CONTEST WINNERS

Four Victorious First District Youth from Bell, Montebello, & South Gate

LOS ANGELES (February 8, 2011)—Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina congratulated four First District youth at today’s Board of Supervisors meeting for winning the county public library’s “Swing Into Reading! ¡Bailar Con La Lectura!” bookmark contest. Traditionally, each of the five board members present certificates to the winners who reside in their respective supervisorial districts. (This year, county public library staff received 8,277 bookmark contest entries total.) Accordingly, Sup. Molina congratulated the following winners who best depicted this year’s “Swing Into Reading! ¡Bailar Con La Lectura!” theme:

- Jessica Fung, a 2nd grader who uses the Montebello Public Library.
- Erik Rodriguez, a 5th grader who visits the Bell Public Library.
- Freddie Hindi, an 8th grader who is a patron of the Montebello Public Library.
- Marcela Martinez, a 9th grader who enjoys the Leland R. Weaver Public Library in South Gate.

“This contest is one of my favorite county traditions,” Sup. Gloria Molina said. “There are always so many good bookmark entries and it is difficult each year to select the winners. But I am so proud of Jessica, Erik, Freddie, and Marcela for their creativity, for their healthy competitive spirit, and for representing the First District so well.”

“I also want to thank the county’s Public Library staff for all their organizational, behind-the-scenes work that made this year’s bookmark contest so fun and so successful,” Sup. Molina continued. “It is because of activities like these that more L.A. County children are exploring our public libraries and reading.”

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“As adults, we all know how essential reading, writing, analytical, and creative thinking skills are,” Sup. Molina concluded. “Yet it’s become a real challenge for parents and teachers to convince children that reading is worthwhile and fun. In this digital age, reading competes with video and PC games, television and movies—not to mention old-fashioned outdoor playing—for our children’s attention. This bookmark contest always gets more local children into our public libraries and interested in reading. That’s good news for everyone.”

Photos of the four bookmark contest winners, and their bookmarks, are available upon request.

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